

PHALÆNA AGRIPPINA.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Antennæ setaceæ, a basi ad apicem sensim attenuatæ.

Alæ (sedentis) sæpius deflexæ (volatu diurno.)

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 808.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

PHALÆNA (noctua) alis subconcoloribus albidis fusco nebulosis, subtus subviolaceis.

Mer. ins. Sur. t. 20.

PHALÆNA AGRIPPINA.

Cram. ins. 8. t. 87. 88. A. A.

Phalænam hanc grandem et elegantem, Surinamiæ incolam, prima omnium descripsisse et depinxisse videtur celeberrima Merian in *historia insectorum Surinamensium*. Folia Gambogiæ depascitur larva, colore læte viridi, faciis latis, transversis, nigris variata: color autem viridis, anteaquam in chrysalidem convertatur phalæna, transire solet in splendido-rubrum. Errant frequenter auctores, quorum eadem est hæc species atque phalæna *striæ* Linnæi, quæ

quæ tamen ad aliam tribum referri debet, generali quadam colorum dispositione huic affinis.

Jactat Museum Leverianum pulcherrima duo phalænæ Agrippinæ specimina.



AGRIPPINA.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Antennæ setaceous, gradually diminishing from the base to the tip.

Wings (when at rest) commonly deflected.
(Flight diurnal.)

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Whitish Moth, elouded with brown variegations; the pattern nearly similar on both surfaces; the inferior tinged with violet-colour.

The large and elegant moth represented on the present plate is a native of Surinam, and appears to have been first described and figured by the celebrated Madam Merian, in her history of the insects of that country. The caterpillar or larva feeds on the leaves of the Gamboge-tree, and is of a fine green, variegated with large, transverse, black bands; but some time before its assuming the form of a chrysalis it is observed to exhibit a remarkable alteration of colour, the green changing to a beautiful red. This species is commonly, but mistakenly,
quoted

quoted as the *Phalæna Strix* of Linnæus; that insect belonging to a different division of the genus, and being allied to the present species only in the general distribution of its colours. In the Leverian Museum may be seen two very fine specimens of the *Phalæna Agrippina*.